(b) if so, whether the runways at a large number of airports are deteriorating which may cause accidents;

(c) the total amount spent by Government to maintain the runways at various airports during the last three years; and

(d) whether the pilots have also expressed their worries on this subject and if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Airports Authority of India has spent about Rs. 174.11 crores for the extension, strengthening and improvement of runways at various airports in the last three years.

(d) Some pilots had expressed concern before monsoon on the friction co-efficient value of the main runway at Mumbai. The friction co-efficient was checked and found to be within the permissible limits.

Seat Sharing Agreement between Air India and Singapore Airlines

2002. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a deal has been under negotiation between Air India and Singapore Airlines to carry each other's passengers; and

(b) if so, whether the deal has been finalised and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Air India and Singapore Airlines have concluded an Alliance Agreement in January, 1998 for a Code-Share arrangement under which singapore Airlines would provide Air India a block of seats on their flights beyond Singapore to points in the West Coast of USA, Canada, New Zealand and Australia at an Agreed price.